



***The Risk Management Framework
and its Application to Climate Change***

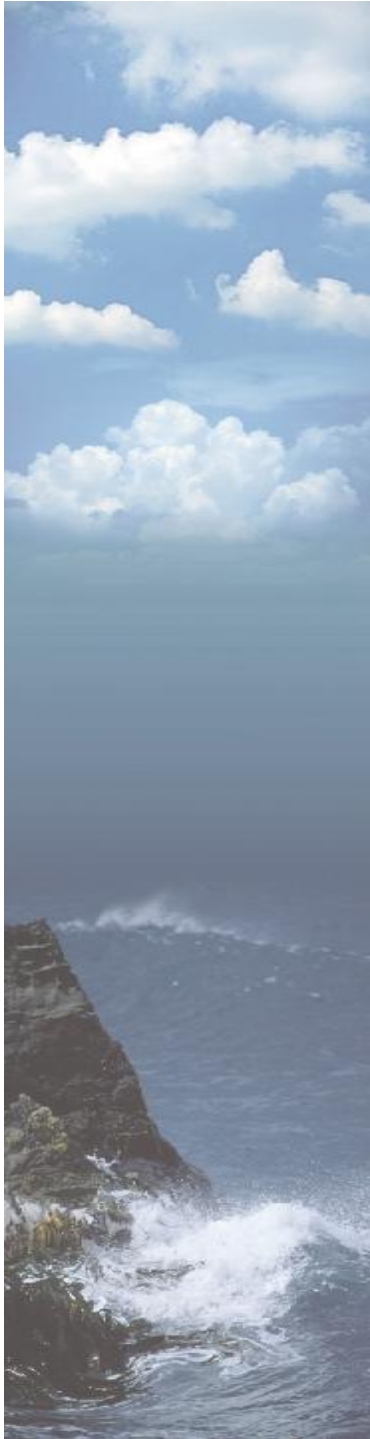
Overview

by

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Global Change Strategies International

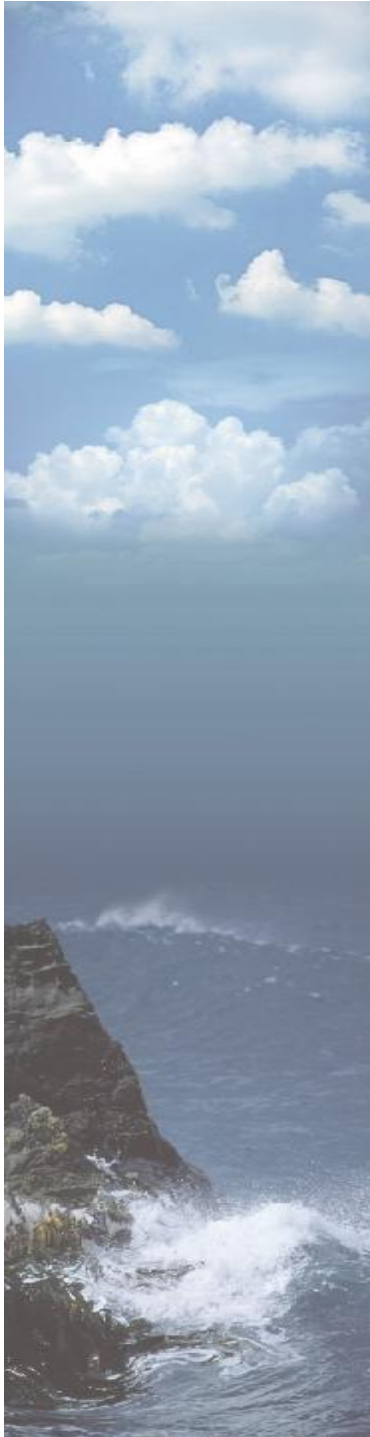
March 2002



ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE: RISKS and CHOICES

SO WHAT?

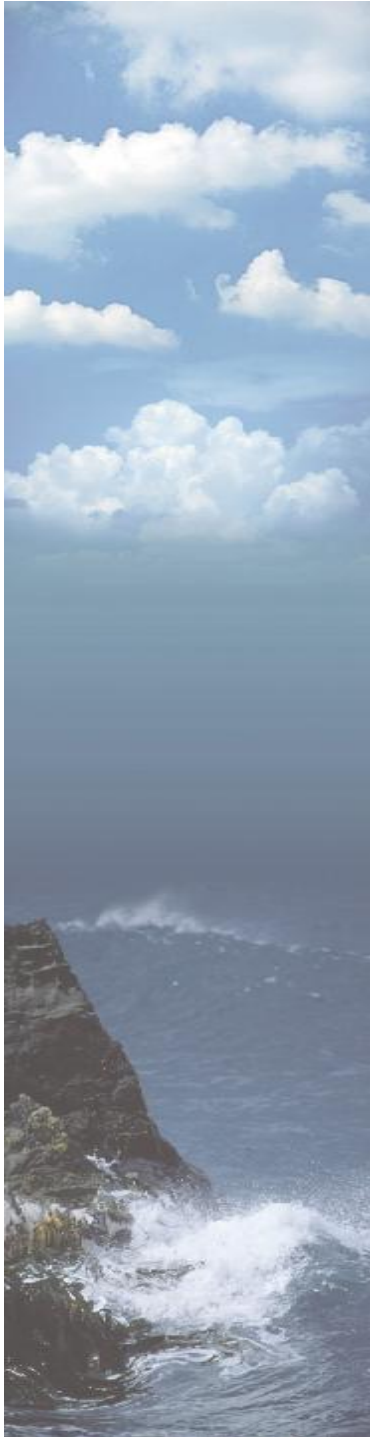
HOW SHOULD WE DEAL WITH THEM?



RISKS and CHOICES

SO WHAT?

- **What measures should be taken?**
- **How much time is available?**
- **What will it cost?**



RISKS and CHOICES

HOW SHOULD WE DEAL WITH THEM?

- Do nothing
- Share losses
- Modify or eliminate the threat
- Reduce or prevent effects
- Avoid the effects



THE DILEMMA

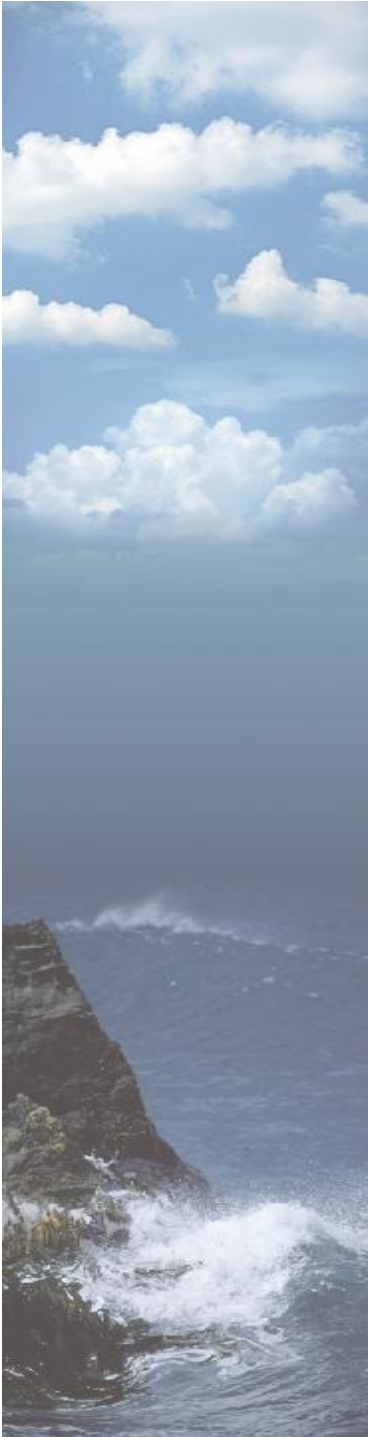
**The choices are extremely complex.
They involve:**

- **the protection of human health**
- **the safety of our property and infrastructure**
- **the sustainability of our economies**
- **the sustainability of the environment, and diversity and health of species**
- **others.**

THE DILEMMA

There are also uncertainties about:

- **our needs**
- **the objectives**
- **the cost**
- **the process we should follow**
- **the outcomes**
- **other parameters.**



THE DILEMMA

The complex choices and uncertainties can result in denial, delay or deferral of necessary action





A PROCESS THAT CAN HELP

The risk management process provides a framework for selecting strategies to deal with those aspects of climate change that create or increase a risk to infrastructure, operations, economies or populations.



A PROCESS THAT CAN HELP

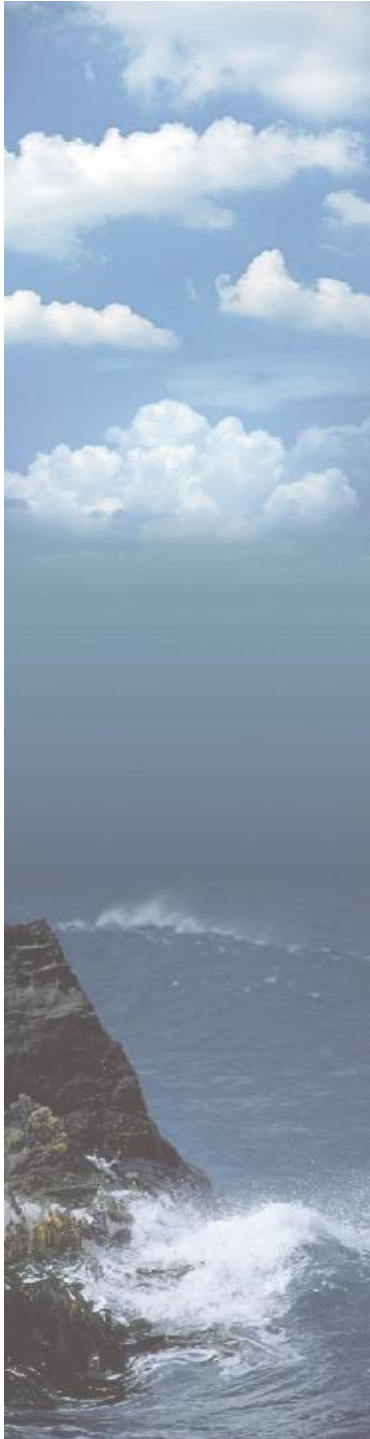
It is a decision-making tool that assists in the selection of optimal, or the most cost-effective, strategies using a systematic, broadly accepted public process.



A PROCESS THAT CAN HELP

Scientists, engineers and economists have routinely used a risk management framework to assist them in making optimal decisions where complicated risks are involved.

It was perceived to be too complex and difficult, suitable only for experts.



BUILDING A NATIONAL STANDARD

In Canada organisations that regularly used risk management wrote a simple guide to the process to show its benefits and help others use it.

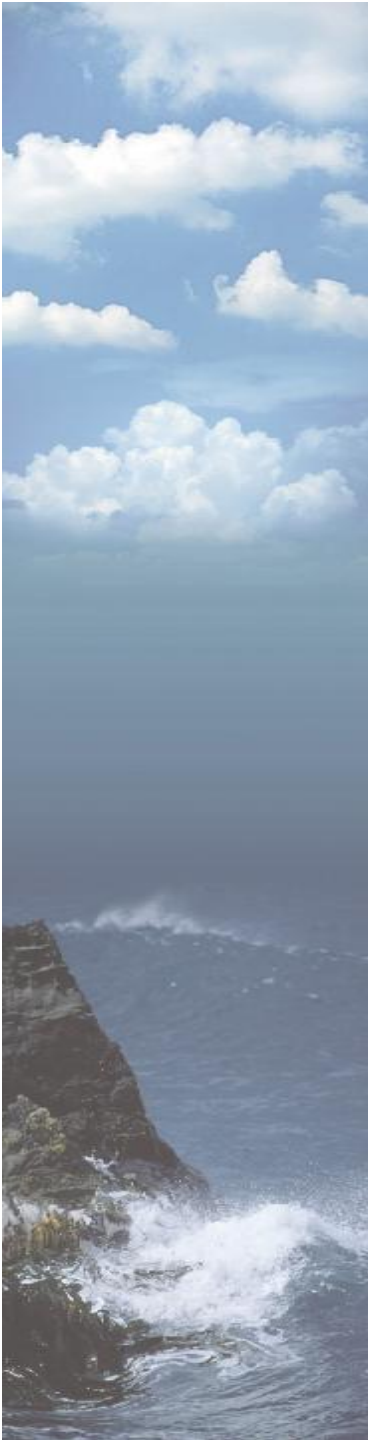


BUILDING A NATIONAL STANDARD

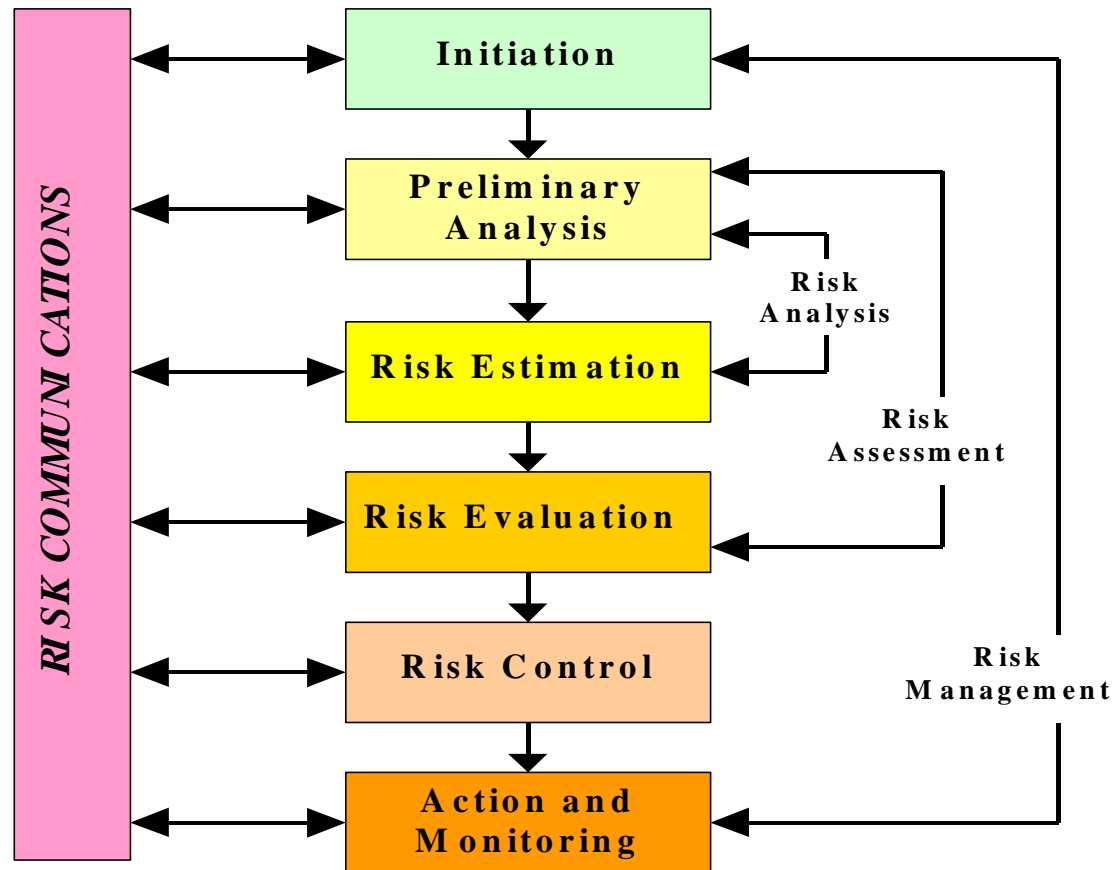
The result:

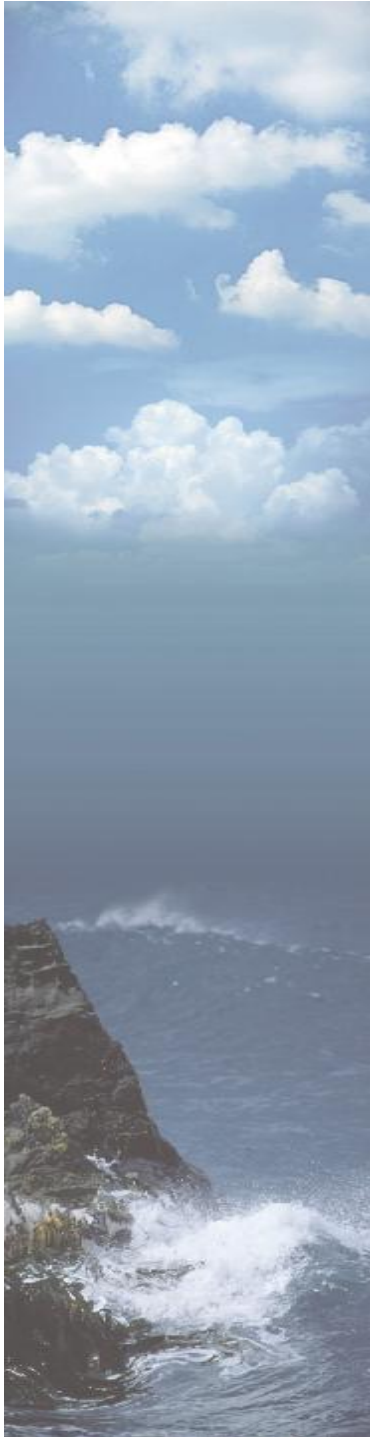
***Risk Management: Guideline for
Decision-Makers (CAN/CSA-Q850-
97).***

A National Standard of Canada



THE RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS





CONCLUSIONS

- **A simple process to help make decisions where risks and choices are involved.**
- **Climate adaptation presents complex and possibly expensive choices.**
- **A risk management process give a framework to help select the best options.**
- **Simple, effective and proven**